

Young Friends General Meeting

Oxford Friends Meeting House

February 18-20th 2011

Present:

Co-Clerks: Sally Nicholls & Siobhan Haire

YFGM Treasurer: Andrew Rendle

YFGM Finance Officer: Bryony Elias

Co-Convener of Overseers: Thomas Taylor

Management Officer: Jessica Metherringham-Owlett

Coordinator: Hugo Finley

Area Meeting and Yearly Meeting Representatives:

John Bacon - Southwark, Lewisham & Bromley

Harriet Hart - Norwich and Waveny AM and Craven and Keighley AM

Ruth Holtom - BrigHouse

Xi-Mali Kadeena-Guscoth - North London

Katharine McIntosh - Cambridge & Peterborough

Hereward Mills - Luton and Leighton AM

Mark Russ - London West Area Meeting

Darrel Spence - Cheshire AM

Alyn Still - Witney AM

Edward Ullathorne - Warwickshire AM

Those Present:

Holly Alcick, Sam Barnett-Cormack, Lili Bright, Lyncla Sarah Berry, Hannah Brock, Jay Clark, Helen Close, Eleanor Coss, Alasdair de Voil, Carla Denyer, Paul Dodwell, Peter Doubtfire, Kim Chiara Edwards, Toby Freeman, Chris Garrard, Matthew Gee, Toby Gibbons, Matt Godwin, Ian Goggin, Cait Gould, Maud Grainger, Sebastian Harries, Bridget Holtom, Thomas Hoskins, Elizabeth (Beth) Howard, Caro Humphries, Ben Jarman, Selina Larsen, Esther Leighton, Sophie Loewendahl, Ged Manning, Jessie Munton, Jessica Murray, Sally Murray, Maurice Nagington, Aidrian Nelson, John Nicholls, Camilla Oelman, Paul Ong, Helen Percy, Jeremy Platt, Becky Riddell, Oliver Robertson, Sam Robinson, Dino Rock, Kristin Ethel Skarsholt, Charlotte Smith, Ericka Smith, Rachel Smith, Nora Spencer, Honora Spicer, Hannah Spiers, Majk Stokes, Rachael Swancott Boon, Katherine Talbot, Rachel Tansey, Hilary Topp, Kris Turner, Hugh Williams, Andrew Williams, Christopher Wood

Total: 82

2011.01 Opening Minute

We welcome Friends to Oxford for our February YFGM. This weekend, we will be holding a parallel Enquirer's Gathering alongside our usual business sessions. We extend a particular welcome to all enquirers and new faces here this weekend.

2011.02 Budget for 2011

We have been presented with a budget by our finance committee. We approve this budget, including a £700 extra donation to EMEYF, and attach a final version to these minutes.

We are grateful to be able to support EMEYF and more isolated young friends and hope that those interested in considering how else we could support them will take this forward. In addition, we ask that when sending the cheque to EMEYF, our finance committee ask them how we can support them financially in the future.

2011.03 Crèche Provision

We have heard a report from Katharine McIntosh, our crèche co-ordinator, about our crèche provision. YFGM currently offers crèche facilities, although these have not been used for many years.

We feel that with increasing legal pressures, we are not able to offer crèche provision and will lay down the role of crèche co-ordinator.

We will still allow children to attend YFGMs, but only as the responsibility of their parents and in consultation with trustees and overseers. It may not be appropriate for older children to attend YFGM, as we do not have the required legal safeguards, and we recognise that this needs to be discerned on each occasion that a parent needs to bring their child. We will also encourage parents to use the accessibility fund to pay for any additional needs, and to seek help from local Friends if appropriate.

We thank all those involved in researching this for their hard work.

2011.04 Appeal Extension

Majk Stokes, from our appeal group, has asked us to allow the appeal to be extended in order to continue its work. We reaffirm our commitment to Firefly - our appeal charity - and extend it until February of 2012.

In the case that other possible appeals are ready to be taken up in the interim, we will reconsider where our commitment lies in October 2011.

2011.05 Accounts

We appoint Peter Ullathorne to examine our accounts for 2010.

2011.06 Reports

We have heard four reports this weekend. The first, from Adrian Nelson and Caro Humphries, an informative and thoughtful newcomers' report, the second, from Majk Stokes, Caro Humphries, Cait Gould, Hannah Spires and Chris Wood, a musical and enjoyable account of the YFGM Hogmany Event, and finally, a report back from Siobhan Haire about the general YFGM survey in Liverpool and a detailed report from Sam Barnett-Cormack on the events survey taken at our last YFGM, which will be of great use to future events' co-ordinators.

We thank those involved for their reports.

2011.07 Pan Transport

We thank Kirs Turner for transporting the pans from Oxford to Birmingham.

2011.08 Nominations

We appoint the following names to the following positions, and release those mentioned.

Position	Released	Appointed	Until
Overseer	Charlotte Smith	Selina Larsen	Feb '13
QPSW Correspondent	Hugh Williams	Hereward Mills	Feb '13
Employment Fund Treasurer	Hand over	Paul Dodwell	May '14
Planning Weekend Newcomer	Caro Humphries Livia Oldland Adrian Nelson	Kim Edwards Honora Spicer Paul Ong	May '11
Special Interest Group Co-ordinator	Jess Metherringham-Owlett	Carry over	Feb '13
Line Manager	Hand over	Hilary Topp	May '14
Events Co-ordinator	Jenn Brett	Sophie Loewendahl	Feb '13
YFGM rep Experiment with Light Conference	n/a	Harriet Hart	May '11
Nominations Committee	Rosalind Haire	Peter Doubtfire	Feb '13
YF (GM free) Hogmanay	Majk Stokes Helen Percy	n/a	n/a
Firefly Appeal Group	Majk Stokes Edd Ullathorne Charlotte Smith Rosalind Haire Jenny McCarthy	Majk Stokes Edd Ullathorne Charlotte Smith Rosalind Haire Jenny McCarthy	Feb '12
FWCC Cluster Consultation	n/a	Ruth Wood Hannah Brock Cáit Gould	May '11
Creche Co-ordinator	Katharine McIntosh	Laid down	n/a

2011.09 Change of Signatories

Further to minute 11.08 we appoint

Paul Dodwell

Sally Nicholls

Siobhan Haire

as signatories for the employment fund, and

Paul Dodwell

Siobhan Haire

Sally Nicholls

Hugo Finley

for the employment fund petty cash book.

2011.10 Clerks' Offering

Our YFGM was held in Oxford in mid-February. Following a busy week in the office we were delighted by the number of new and returning faces who joined together - although it did lead to a somewhat 'cosy' atmosphere at meal times.

Our business sessions, particularly those on the budget and the crèche, allowed us to see our business method working well - it is always heartening to watch genuine discernment lead us

forward. We were reminded of how lucky we are to be relatively numerous in Britain, and have reflected on how best we might support more isolated Friends.

We were joined by QCEA programme assistants Ben Jarman, John Nicholls and Rachel Tansey, who presented us with a whirlwind tour of the European lobbying system, as well as sharing their hopes for greater engagement by Quakers in Europe.

Symon Hill led us in a session of 'Sex and the Spirit', in which we developed our individual reflection on spiritual and sexual identity, and the overlap in these areas which are so fundamental to our identities.

This weekend we have also had an Enquirers' Gathering running parallel to some of our sessions - we hope that this will have been beneficial, informative, transformative to our newcomers.

We enjoyed special interest groups on
Bread and puppet making
Discussion about the employee's role
A walk around Oxford
Board games
Knitting
and music,
as well as a scavenger hunt around Oxford.

As ever, we are grateful for the chance to be together and strengthen our friendships and our spirituality. We have been reminded in worship of the spiritual journey which we are all on, and on which we can accompany each other for some of the way. We look forward to meeting again at YFGM in May in Bristol.

2011 Budget - Document presented to YFGM February 2011

	2010 Budget	2010 actual (to the end of Nov)	2011 Budget
Income			
BYM Grant	6800	6800	6800
JRCT Grant	11076	11076	11076
Legacies	0	0	0
YFGM Contributions	4100	4288	4300
Meetings and Friends	7000	5920	6000
Young Quaker	1500	1505	1500
Interest	110	50	50
Outreach	750	0	0
Events	550	988	3000
Appeal	0	0	1000
Other Income	3000	3129	3000
Total	34886	33756	36726
Expenditure			
YFGMs	4100	5011	5200
Planning Weekend	2500	2750	3000
Accessibility	1000	1036	1250
Bursarys	1000	498	1500
Training	750	665	2000
Outreach	2000	275	600
International	100	100	200
Interchurch /faith	150	51	300
Reps and Subs	700	369	500
Grants and Donations	1800	1800	1600
Contingency	1000	0	1000
employment	19435	13085.25	19549
Young Quaker	1700	987	2000
Events	1080	1197	3200
Appeal	0	0	1000
Quinty	0	0	200
Other Expenses	0	200	1600
Total	37315	28024.25	44699
Net Spending	-2429	5732	-7973